PART I.—BUDGET.

The Committee then took up Part I Budget for 1107.

46. The Budget of the Land Revenue and Income Tax Departments was scrutinised and passed.

47. The Budget of the Excise Department was next scrutinised. The non-official members objected to the reserve in this department. Mr. K. George said that it is a misnomer to call it a reserve. It is to fill up the acting vacancies in the department that it is kept and it is a gain to Government as the number of vacancies exceeds the number in the reserve. The above Budget was then passed.

48. The Budget of the Forest Department was next scrutinised. Mr. K. Kunjukrishna Pillai objected to the provision of Rs. 300 on account of personal allowance to one Ranger. Mr. K. George said that the Ranger who is being given this personal allowance had Western qualifications and instead of giving him a higher post Government have given only a personal allowance. Mr. K Kunjukrishna Pillai wanted to know the special western qualifications of the Ranger. The information was read out by Mr. K. George and it was found that the Ranger had a diploma from the Aberdeen university. Mr. K. Kunjukrishna Pillai contended that the diploma was not a sufficient qualification to justify this personal allowance. The non-official members did not approve of the above provision and said that they would object to the same in the Council. The above Budget was then passed.

49. The Budget under Stamps and the Budget of the Registration Department were next scrutinised and passed.

50. The General Administration Budget was then taken up for scrutiny. Mr. K. Kunjukrishna Pillai suggested a reduction in the provision of Rs. 11,000 under travelling allowance of the Dewan as an example to the other departments. The Dewan approved of a reduction of Rs. 1,000 in the amount which was accepted by the Committee. Mr. Kunjukrishna Pillai, next proposed a reduction in the provision of Rs. 2,500 under Private Secretary's Office contingencies. A reduction of Rs. 250 was accordingly made. This also was accepted by the Committee. The above Budget was passed subject to these two reductions.

51. The Budget under Administration of Justice was next scrutinised. In this connection Mr. K. Kunjukrishna Pillai pointed out that there was real grievance among a section of the students of the Law College who are employed in Government offices as they cannot attend the College between 10 A. M. and 4 P. M, and pleaded that arrangements should be made for holding special classes. The Dewan said that it is not possible to make any such arrangement as the University would not recognise it. He also said that notice had been given to all students last year of the present arrangement. Mr. K. Kunjukrishna Pillai then pointed out that the Assistant to the Additional Head Sirkar Vakil was appointed at a time when there was heavy work in the office such as the revision of the Civil Procedure Code. There is no

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necessity for an Assistant now and that the post could, with advantage, be abolished. The Dewan said that there are several Bills on the anvil and the necessity for the post still continues. On this, the Committee approved of the provision.

52. The Committee next scrutinised and passed Part I Budget of the remaining departments.

53. The Budget under Debt Head— Loans—was then scrutinised. Mr. K. Kunjukrishna Pillai suggested that the provision of Rs. 30,000 under loans for the purchase of Motor cars and other conveyances is not necessary at this time of economic depression and as the Government cannot afford to be a banker. The Dewan said that some officers have been expecting loans for the purchase of cars and as the provision is only Rs. 30,000 it is not desirable to drop the same.

54. Mr. K. Kunjukrishna Pillai then suggested that a sum of Rs. 20,000 may be reduced from the provision of Rs. 50,000 under Other Loans and that the provision under Agricultural loans be increased. Mr. K. Kunjukrishna Pillai and Mr. N. K. Krishna Pillai suggested that the provision of Rs. $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs under Agricultural loans is not adequate and that it should be raised to five lakhs. The Dewan said that he would consider whether it will be possible to add something more to the above provision and the Budget was then passed.

The Committee adjourned at 3-20 P. M.

P. N. KRISHNA PILLAI,
Convener,
Standing Finance Committee.

Huzur Cutcherry,
Trivandrum, 22nd July 1931.

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